GOVERNMENT PRISONS (IRELAND).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourbale The House of Commons, dated 20 December 1854;—*for*,

"COPIES of any MINUTE or DOCUMENT constituting the BOARD of COMMISSIONERS, pursuant to the Provisions of 17 & 18 Vict. c. 76, for the MANAGEMENT of the GOVERNMENT CONVICT PRISONS ESTABLISHMENT in *Ireland*; with a Return of the Names, Ages, and Salaries of all Persons appointed under the said Minute or Order; also the Nature of any Office, whether Civil or Military, held previously by any of said Persons, with the Amount of Salary, and Length of Service:"

"And, of any ORDER, MINUTE, or LETTER, made by the Lords of the Treasury, or the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, directing the Dismissal or Removal from Office of the Officers entrusted with the Management of said Convict Prisons previous to the passing of said Act, together with their Age, Length of Service, and Amount of Compensation awarded by the Lords of the Treasury for the Loss of Office."

SCHEDULE.

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WARRANT appointing *Walter Crofton*, *Charles Raleigh Knight*, and *John Lentaigne*, Esqrs., to be Directors of Convict Prisons for *Ireland*; and said *Walter Crofton* to be Chairman of such Directors.

By the Lords Justices General and General Governors of *Ireland*.

MAZIERE BRADY, C. L. J.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the 17th and 18th years of Her present Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act for the Formation, Regulation, and Government of Convict Prisons in Ireland," it is enacted that it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant to appoint not more than three persons to be directors of the said convict prisons, with such salaries as the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall approve; and the said directors shall, subject to the directions which they may from time to time receive from the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, have the control and management of all the said convict prisons, and of all prisoners confined therein; and it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant to appoint one of such persons to be chairman of such directors, and one of them or one other person to act as secretary and accountant, and from time to time to remove any such persons to be so appointed and to appoint

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appoint another or others in his or their stead; and the said directors shall be one body politic and corporate by the name of the "Directors of Convict Prisons for Ireland," and by that name have perpetual succession and a common seal, and by that name shall and may sue and be sued, and shall have power and authority to take and purchase and hold lands, tenements, and hereditaments, to them and to their successors and assigns for the purposes of this Act, or any other Act or Acts amending the same:

Now, We the Lords Justices General and General Governors of Ireland, do hereby, in pursuance of the powers vested in Us by the said Act, appoint Walter Crofton, Esq., Charles Raleigh Knight, Esq., and John Lentaigne, Esq., to be Directors of Convict Prisons for Ireland, and We do hereby appoint the said Walter Crofton to be Chairman of such Directors.

Given at Her Majesty's Castle of Dublin, the 10th day of October 1854.

By their Excellencies' Command,

(signed) *John Young.*

RETURN of NAMES, AGES, and SALARIES of Persons Appointed.

NAME.	AGE.	SALARY.	OFFICE PREVIOUSLY HELD.			REMARKS.
			NATURE OF OFFICE.	SALARY.	Length of Service.	
Walter Crofton -	30	- - Nominally 700 *l.* per annum, subjected to deduction of retired military pay.	- - Captain, Royal Artillery; Magistrate for the county of Wiltshire.	- - -	- - Eleven years' military service.	
Charles Raleigh Knight.	40	£.700	- - Army from April 1831 to October 1843; Governor and Superintendent of Military Prisons in Canada from January 1846 to August 1851; Governor of Portland Convict Prison from August 1851 to April 1852; Governor of Portsmouth Convict Prison to date of present appointment.	- - Pay and allowance at the date of present appointment, 640*l.**	- Thirteen years' military service; nine years in Government prison service.	* Not liable to deduction of superannuation tax.
John Lentaigne -	51	£. 000	- - Commissioner of Loan Funds; a Governor of Richmond District Lunatic Asylum; Vice-Chairman of the South Dublin Union; High Sheriff of the county Monaghan; Magistrate and Grand Juror of the counties of Dublin and Monaghan	—		

Office of Government Prisons, Dublin Castle, 16 January 1855.

Walter Crofton.
C. R. Knight.
John Lentaigne.

Sir, Dublin Castle, 3 November 1854.

REFERRING to my letter of the 27th ultimo, respecting the appointment by the Lords Justices of the three Directors of Convict Prisons for Ireland, and the salaries which their Excellencies recommended for those officers, I am directed to request that you will bring under the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury the case of Mr. Hitchins, Inspector of Government Prisons, an office which will no longer be required when the appointments in question shall have been perfected.

Mr. Hitchins entered the public service as a junior clerk in the Chief Secretary's office on the 1st January 1826, where he continued until the 31st December 1849; having been principally employed during the latter years of his service in the Convict Department of the office.

In December 1849, in contemplation of the opening of the Mountjoy Convict Depôt, Mr. Hitchins was appointed by his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon to superintend that and the other depôt appropriated in Ireland to the reception of convicts sentenced to transportation, on their removal from the county gaols. The office was styled that of Inspector of Government Prisons, and the salary, which commenced at 500 *l.* per annum, on the 1st January 1850, was increased, in

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in March 1851, to 650 *l.*, and in April 1852, to 700 *l.*, to rise by 25 *l.* per annum to 750 *l.*

Mr. Hitchins is an active and intelligent public officer, and competent to fill a place in many departments of the public service, and while their Excellencies have not thought it desirable to include him in the new arrangements under the Act of last Session, they submit his claims to the favourable consideration of their Lordships, and strongly recommend that their Lordships may be pleased to grant him his present full rate of salary as a retiring allowance until he shall be again employed in the public service; and that in the meantime he be placed on the Redundant List, with a view to further employment at the earliest moment that opportunity offers.

I am further to transmit, for their Lordships' information, a memorandum from Mr. Hitchins, by which it appears that upon the office of Local Inspector of the Four Courts Marshalsea becoming vacant in the year 1850, Mr. Hitchins, at the request of the Government of the day, undertook the duties of that office without additional remuneration, by which means the salary of 170 *l.* a year, theretofore attached to that office, became saved to the public.

I am, &c.
(signed) *John Young.*

James Wilson, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir, Treasury Chambers, 20 November 1854.

The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having had before them your letter, dated the 3d instant, recommending to their Lordships' favourable consideration the case of Mr. Hitchins, Inspector of Government Prisons in Ireland, whose services will no longer be required under the operation of the Act passed in the last Session of Parliament for the future regulation of the convict prisons in that country, I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, that, adverting to the circumstances stated in your letter, and especially to the fact that the Irish Government, while stating that it has not been thought desirable to include Mr. Hitchins in the new arrangements under the Act of last Session, have borne testimony to the activity and intelligence of that gentleman in the discharge of his public duties, my Lords are pleased to award to him a compensation allowance of five hundred and sixty-five pounds per annum (565 *l.*), to commence from the date at which the appointment of directors of convict prisons under the Act referred to shall take effect, and to continue until such time as any opportunity may occur for re-employing him in the public service: and my Lords will be prepared to direct the Paymaster of Civil Services in Ireland to pay this allowance so soon as they shall be apprised that Mr. Hitchin's employment as inspector of prisons has terminated.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. E. Trevelyan.*

The Chief Secretary for Ireland,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir, Dublin Castle, 1 December 1854.

I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to apprize you, that the arrangements rendered necessary by the altered circumstances of the Convict service have now been made, and that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have been pleased to award to you an allowance of 565 *l.* per annum, as compensation for the office formerly held by you, which will be paid by the Paymaster of Civil Services from the 29th ultimo, inclusive.

I am also to acquaint you, that while under the new arrangements the office of Inspector of Government Prisons has not been continued, his Excellency is very sensible of the activity and diligence with which you discharged the duties which devolved on you in that office, and his Excellency has not failed to convey such his impression to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for their Lordships' guidance in selecting you for any future employment in the public service.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Thos. A. Larcom.*

H. M. Hitchins, Esq.

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Age, Length of Service, and Amount of Compensation awarded to *Henry M. Hitchins*, Esq., late Inspector of Government Prisons in *Ireland*, by the Lords of the Treasury, for the Loss of Office.

Age.	Length of Service.	Amount of Compensation for the Loss of Office.
Years	*Years*	
44	20	£ 365 per annum.

GOVERNMENT PRISONS (IRELAND)

COPIES of Minute constituting the Board of Commissioners, pursuant to Provisions of 17 & 18 Vict. c. 75, for the Management of the Government Convict Prisons Establishment in Ireland; and of Order directing the Dismissal or Removal from Office of the Officers entrusted with the Management of said Convict Prisons previous to the passing of said Act, &c.

(*Mr. Macartney*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
25 *January* 1855.

Under 1 *ox.*

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